

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Center for Radiophysics and Space Research

SPACE SCIENCES BUILDING

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Laboratory for Planetary Studies

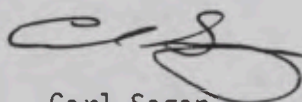
3 January, 1982

Dr. Alex Woronow
Department of Planetary Sciences
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721

Dear Dr. Woronow:

David Grinspoon is a young man with extraordinary capabilities. I have known him for the last 15 years; he has worked in my laboratory at Cornell and has been with me as a Research Assistant for the Voyager project at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. His mathematical aptitudes and his command of the English language must rank somewhere in the high 90 percentile. He is dedicated to planetary studies and is extremely knowledgeable in this field for someone of his level of development. At Brown University he has been pursuing a dual major, a Bachelor of Science in planetary science and a Bachelor of Arts in the philosophy of science. He has taken significant courses in geology, physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics and philosophy. He is also a gifted musician. Because of the breadth of his interest and activities he has not concentrated heavily in physics and is well aware that he must concentrate on physics in his first year of graduate school. I have no doubts about his aptitude in physics and astronomy having seen him at work as a Research Assistant in my laboratory at Cornell in the summer of 1978 and as an assistant to the Voyager Imaging Team during the Voyager 2 Jupiter encounter in the summer of 1979. At Brown he has done research on Viking Lander Imaging data and on ground-based and Pioneer Venus radar observations of Venus. He has some familiarity with computer graphics and computer processing of spacecraft imagery. He is extremely bright, but also extremely personable, works well with others, is deeply committed to planetary studies and exhibits remarkable breadth of interest and abilities. I consider him an exceptional candidate for graduate student and recommend him unreservedly.

Cordially,



Carl Sagan
David Duncan Professor of
Astronomy and Space Sciences
Director, Laboratory for
Planetary Studies

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